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May 1965

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PHOTOGRAPHIC INTERPRETATION REPORT

**PROBABLE SAM LAUNCH AREA
AND UNIDENTIFIED SECURED AREA,
KAPUSTIN YAR/VLADIMIROVKA
MISSILE TEST CENTER, USSR**



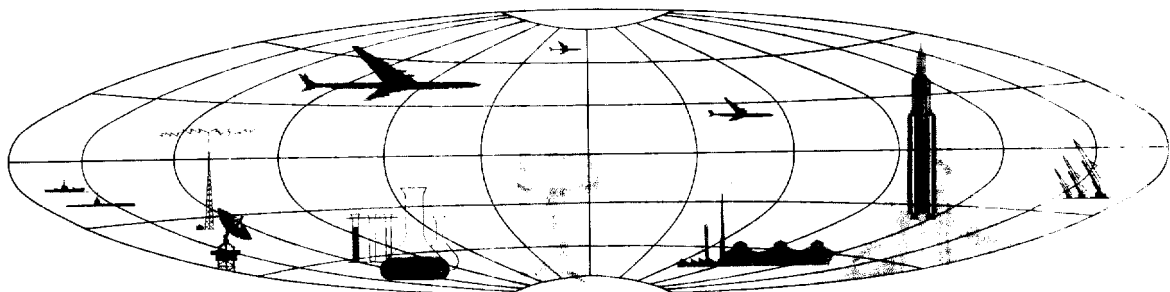
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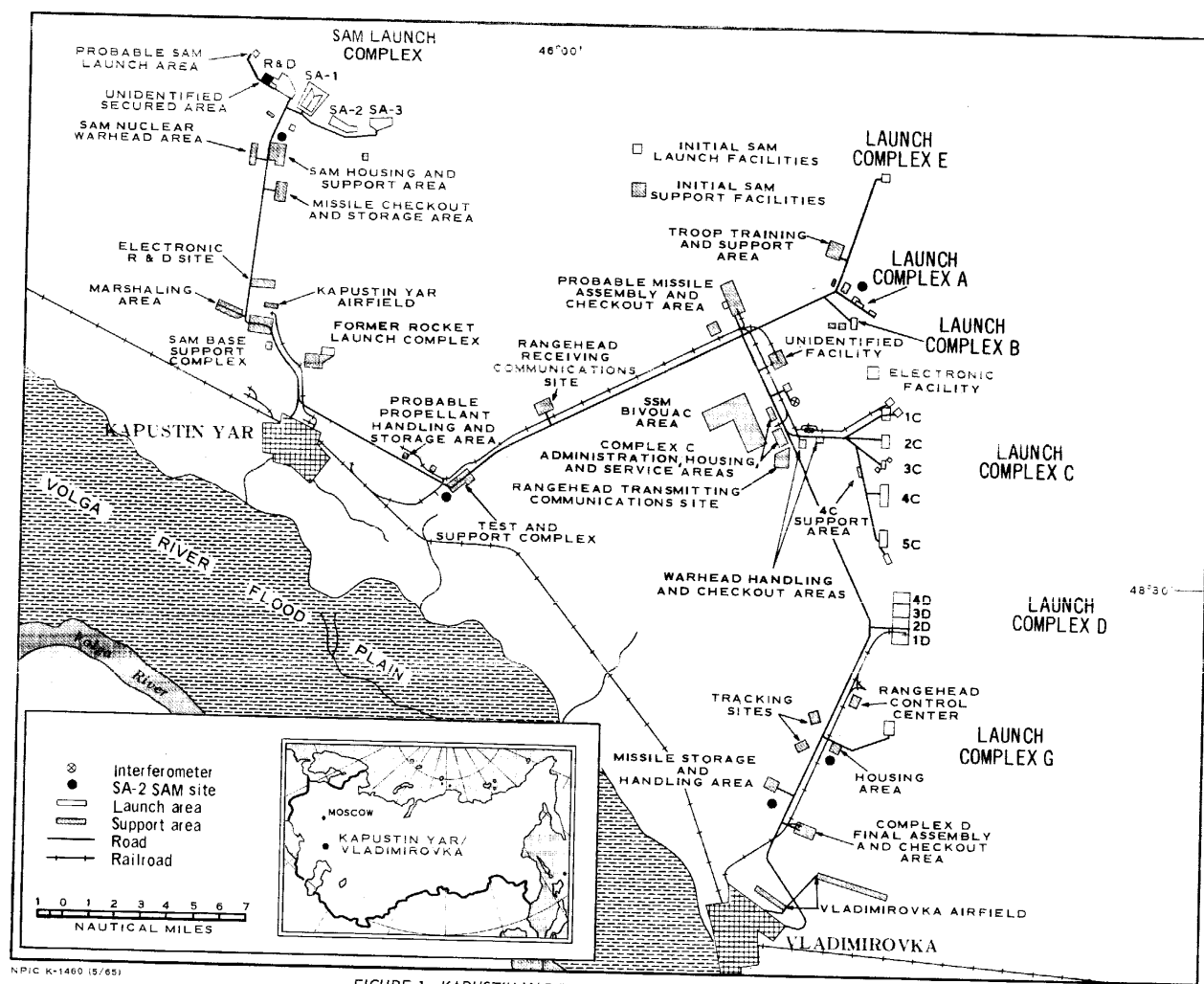


FIGURE 1. KAPUSTIN YAR/VLADIMIROVKA MISSILE TEST CENTER.

This report has been prepared in response to CIA requirement C-RR5-82,280, which requests a detailed analysis of continuing construction at 2 areas of the Surface-to-Air Missile (SAM) Launch Complex of the Kapustin Yar/Vladimirovka Missile Test Center (Figure 1). These areas are a probable SAM launch area (reported on previously 1/), situated northwest of the SAM R & D launch area, and an unidentified secured area between this probable launch area and the R & D launch area. A chronological study of KEYHOLE coverage of both areas has been made for the purposes of this report.

PROBABLE SAM LAUNCH AREA

The probable SAM launch area (Figures 2 and 3) was first identified in June 1964 (Mission 1006-2). It was not present in September 1963 (Mission 1002-1). The majority of the facilities were complete or under construction by Mission 1006-2, as shown in Figure 3. Most of the features identified since Mission 1010-1 (September 1964) were identified primarily as a result of better-quality, KH-7 photography; that is, some of these features possibly were present before the September 1964 coverage.

The area is enclosed by a single fence. Table 1 provides a general description, with dimensions, of most of the structures in the area. Other facilities include 2 self-supporting lattice towers approximately 30 feet high (identified on Mission 4015 of January 1965), which are probably transmission towers. The towers are in the southeast corner of the area, adjacent to a possible transformer yard, and are connected by a row of transmission towers to the SAM housing and support area. Although the irregularly shaped structure (Figure 4 and item 1, Figure 3) in the center of the loop road pattern appears possibly to be electronic associated, its drive-through capability is not typical of any electronic facility (except for a SAM guidance area, which

is often drive-through). The hardstands or aprons (described previously 1/), adjacent to each side of the irregularly shaped structure, do not present a clear image on January 1965 coverage, possibly because of the phenomenon which causes roads and trails to show up black on photography of snow-covered areas. Because of their indistinctness, the hardstands or aprons were not remeasured on the January coverage and are shown by dashed lines in Figure 3.

The number of mounded and revetted structures and the relatively large revetment within the loop road suggests protection from the use of explosives or against radiation. Identification of a possible conveyer on Mission 4015 may be an indication that the area is still under construction.

No launch positions could be identified at the area. Its layout does not appear to be comparable to that of known prototype missile launch sites -- that is, positions of buildings, e.g., the probable clerestory building (item 11, Figure 3), and the position of the loop road. The major reason that the area has been tentatively identified as a probable SAM launch area is its location relative to the SAM Launch Complex launch line. The area also possibly could be a new electronics complex. Because of the inconclusive evidence as to the exact nature of the area, an unqualified analysis of the operation being carried out there cannot be made at this time.

UNIDENTIFIED SECURED AREA

The unidentified secured area (Figures 5 and 6) is approximately 2,500 by 2,130 feet, double secured, and contains 2 buildings. Some scarring in the area could be observed as early as September and October 1964 (Missions 1010-1 and 1011-1, respectively). The scarring was associated more likely with the construction of the

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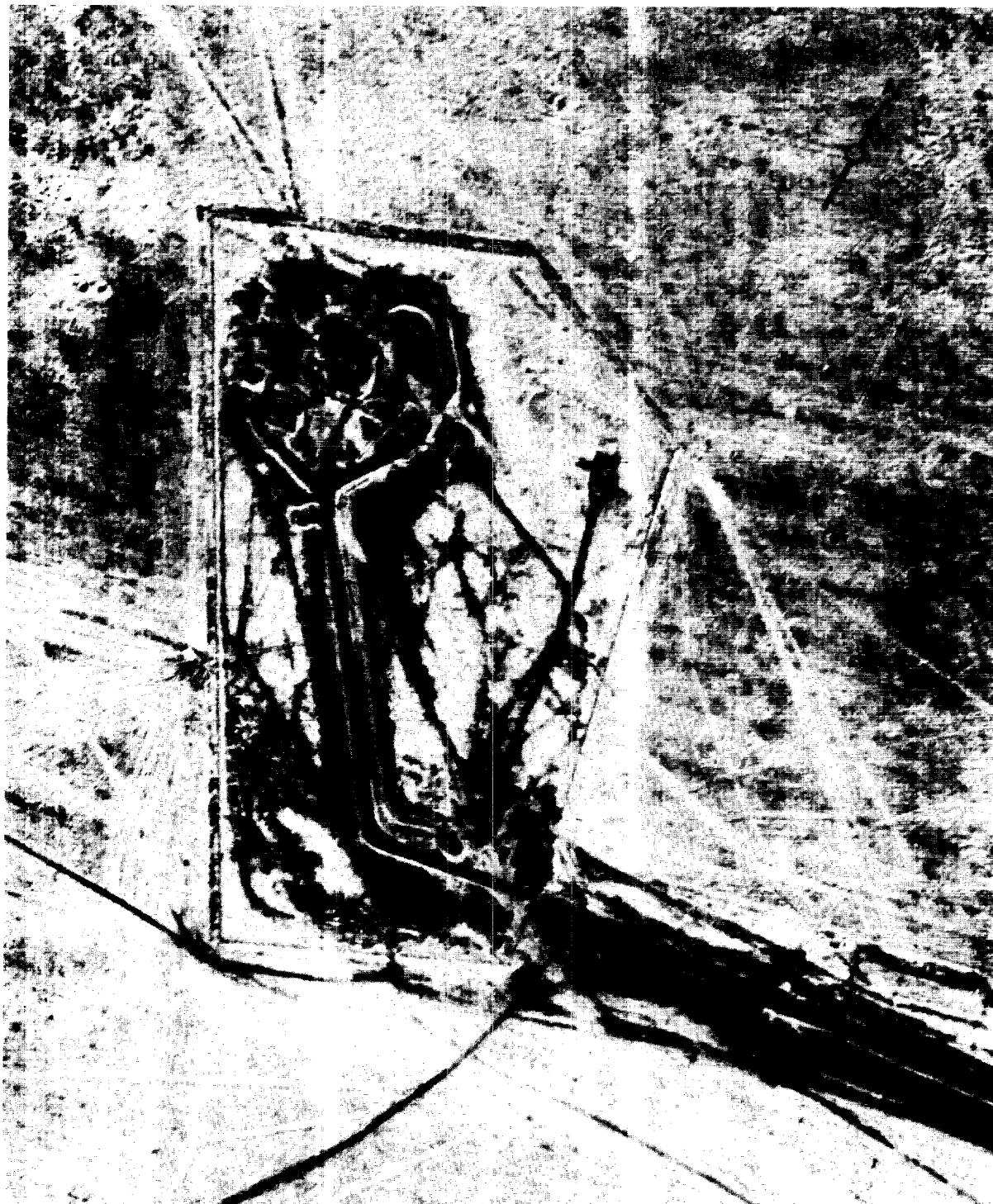


FIGURE 2. PROBABLE SAM LAUNCH AREA, JANUARY 1965

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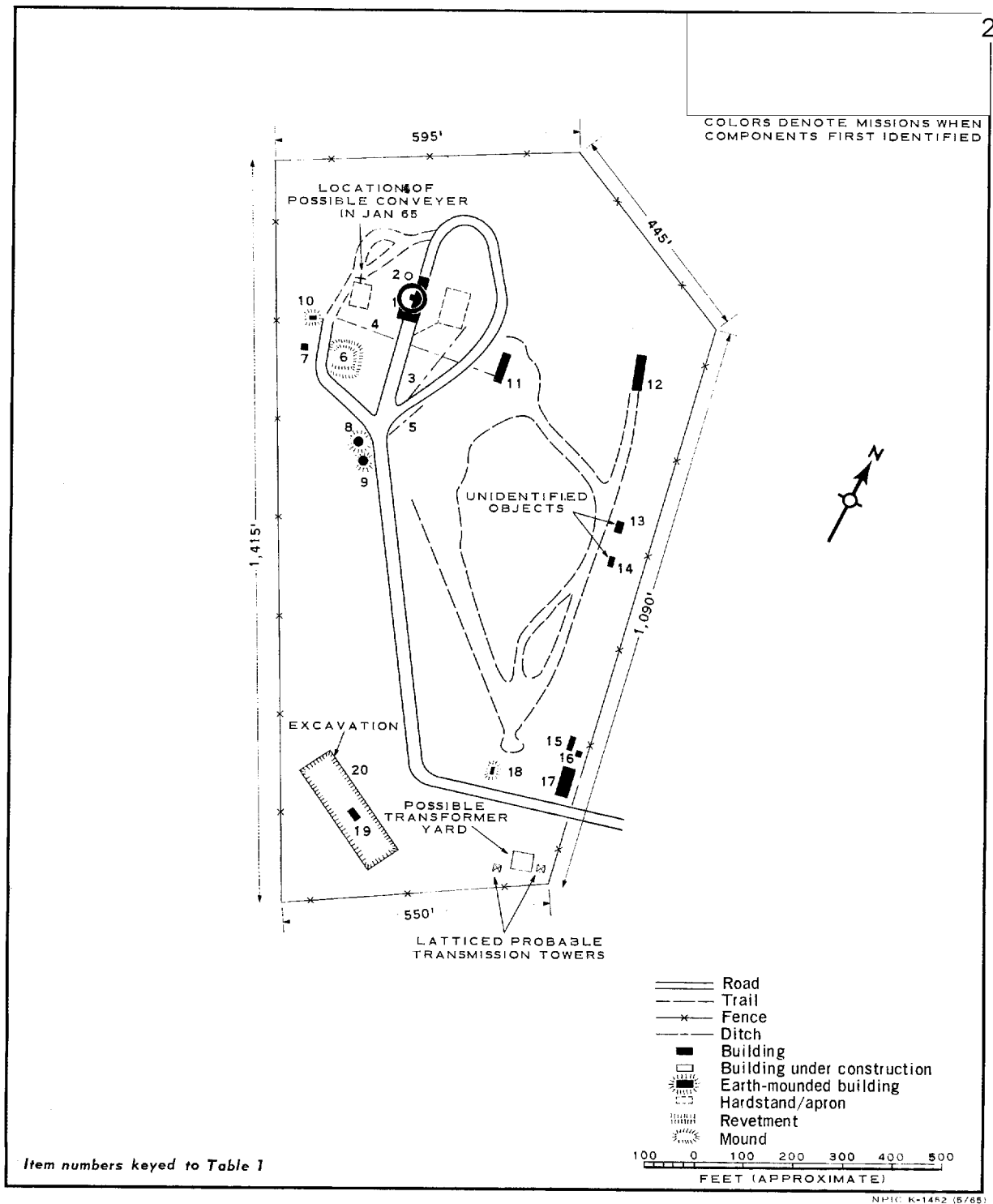


FIGURE 3. LAYOUT OF PROBABLE SAM LAUNCH AREA.

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Table 1. Data on Facilities at Probable SAM Launch Area
(Item numbers are keyed to Figure 3)

| Item No | Description | Dimensions (ft) | Item No | Description | Dimensions (ft) |
|---------|--|---|---------|--|---------------------------------|
| 1 | Irregularly shaped structure | See Figure 4 | 9 | Revetment | 15 x 15 (outside dimensions) |
| 2 | Probable tower | 160-190 (height indefinite because of shadow cast by item 1) | 10 | Possible mounded building | 25 x 25 |
| 3 | Ditch | 170 | 11 | Single-story building, probably clerestory | 55 x 15 |
| 4 | Ditch | 310 | 12 | Gable-roofed single-story building | 75 x 20 |
| 5 | Ditch | 65 | 13 | Unidentified structure | 20 x 15 |
| 6 | Revetment | Walls -- length x thickness: 50 x 10 55 x 10 55 x 10 25 x 10 20 x 10 | 14 | Unidentified structure | 20 x 15 |
| | Unidentified objects (2)* in revetment | | 15 | Single-story shed | 25 x 15 |
| 7 | Building/unidentified structure | 15 x 15 | 16 | Single-story shed | 15 x 10 |
| 8 | Revetment | 15 x 15 (outside dimensions) | 17 | Gable-roofed multi-story building | 55 x 35 |
| | | | 18 | Earth-mounded building | 15 x 10 |
| | | | 19 | Probable building | 25 x 20 |
| | | | 20 | Excavation | 260 x 80 |

*Observed on Mission 4015.

probable SAM launch area than with the unidentified secured area. By December 1964 [] when the secured area was first identified, most of the construction activity observed to date had taken place. The 2 buildings were both under construction. The smaller building (45 by 30 feet) was complete on January 1965 coverage. The other, centrally located

building (80 by 40 feet) was not complete on January 1965 coverage. The outer security fence was complete in January; the inner fence was still incomplete at that time. A 10-foot-diameter circular excavation could be seen approximately 40 feet from the northwest edge of the larger building on January coverage. Trails are visible throughout the secured area.

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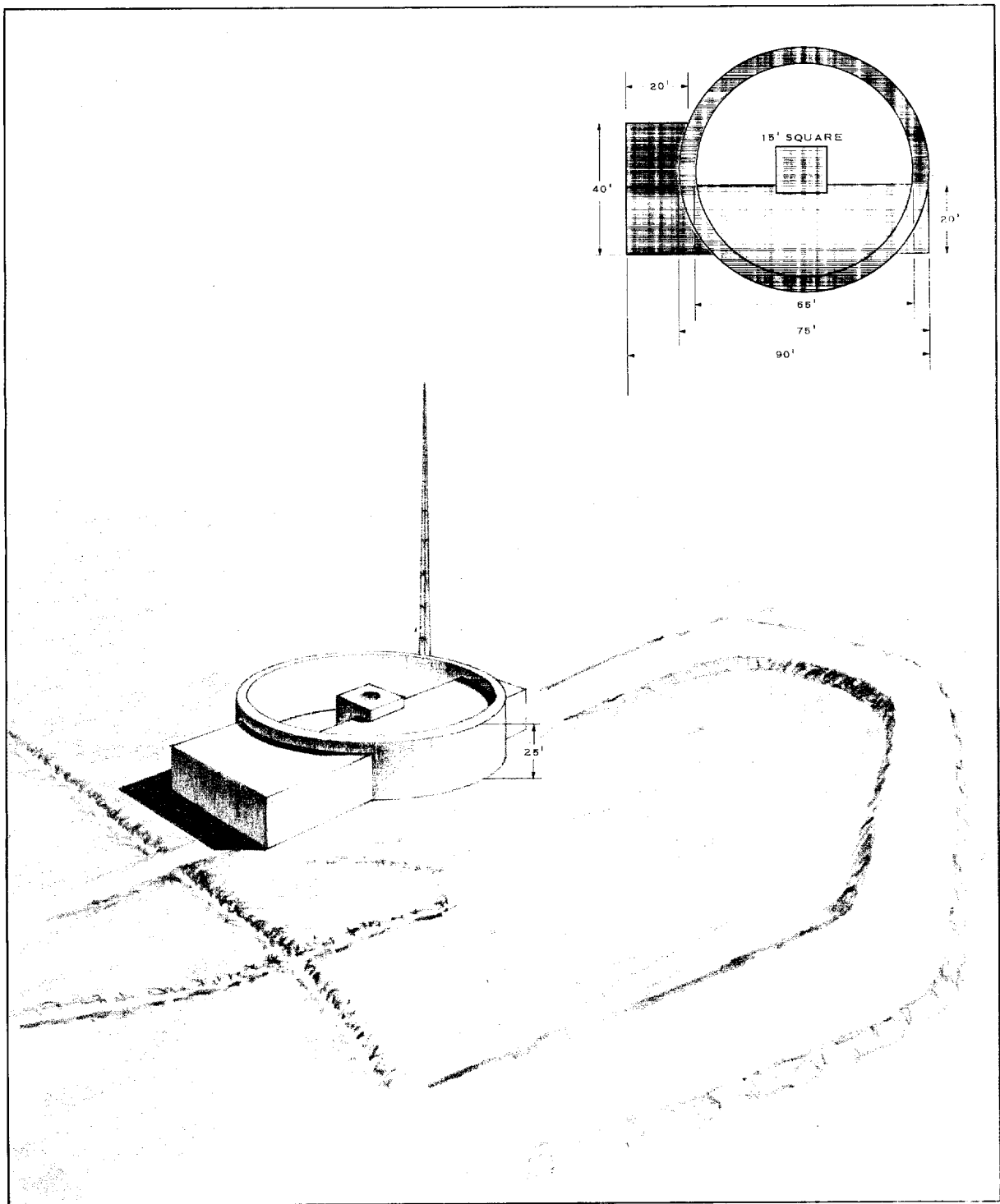


FIGURE 4. IRREGULARLY SHAPED STRUCTURE, PROBABLE SAM LAUNCH AREA.

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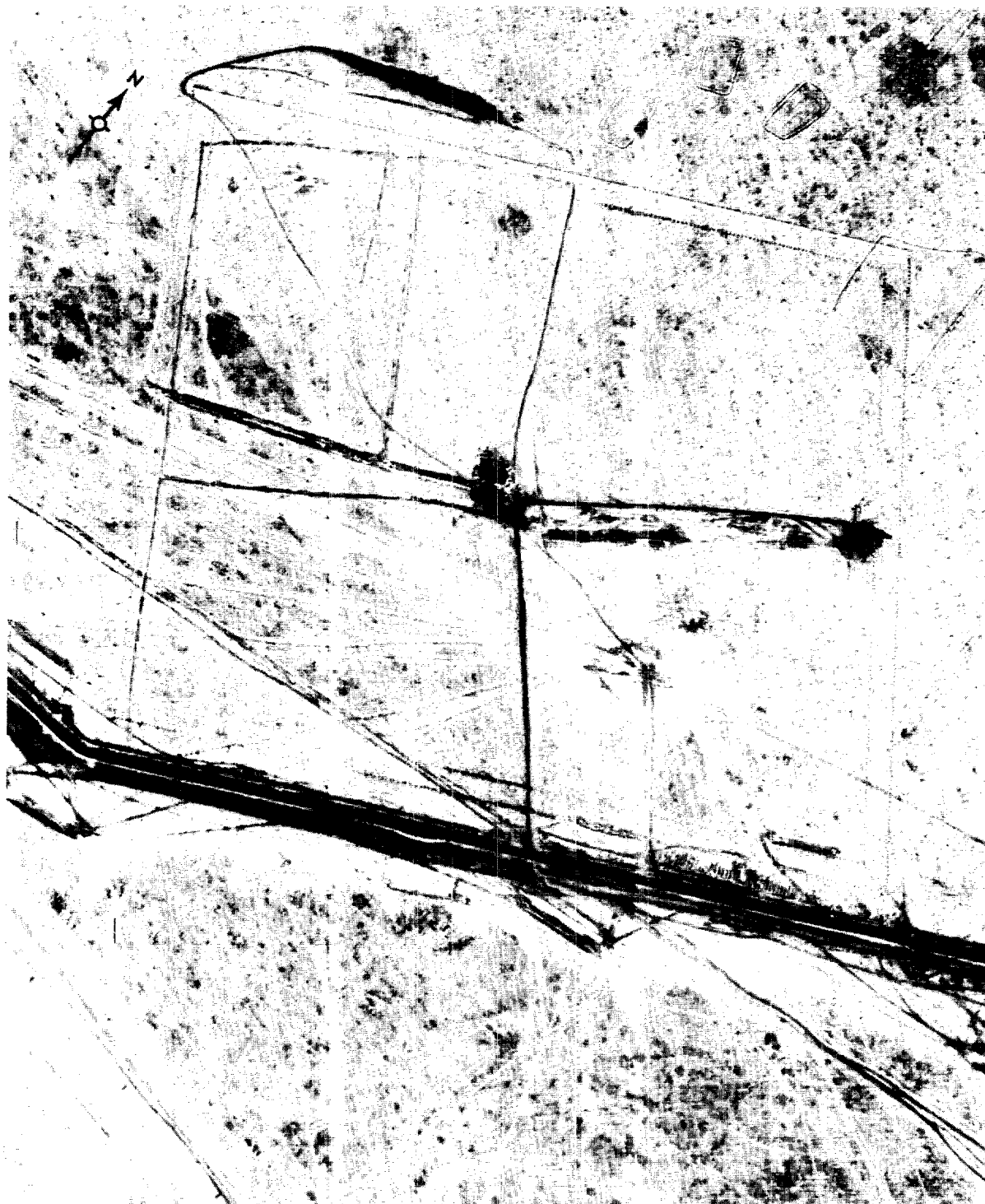


FIGURE 5. UNIDENTIFIED SECURED AREA, JANUARY 1965

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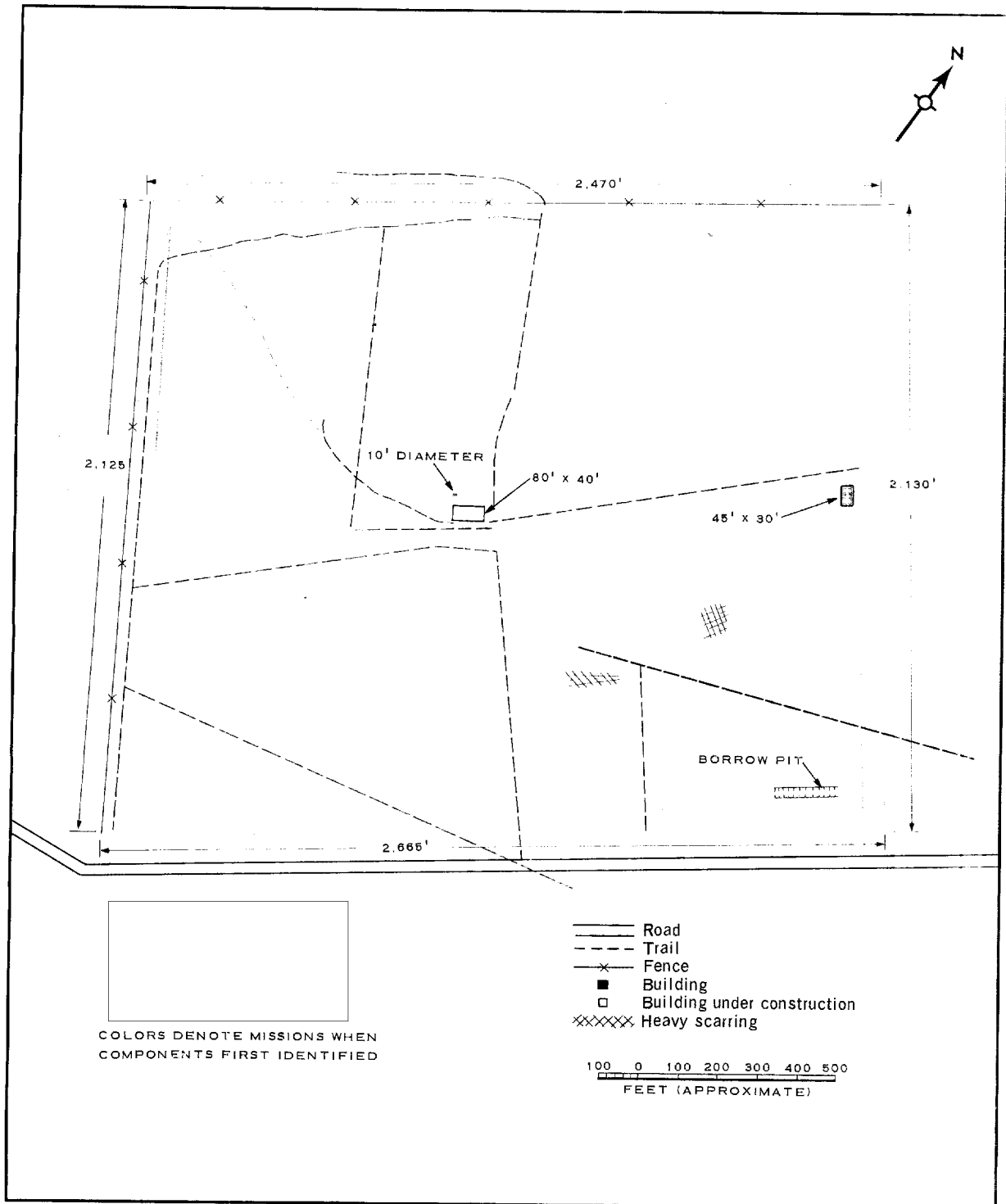


FIGURE 6. LAYOUT OF UNIDENTIFIED SECURED AREA.

NPIC K-1465 (0, 65)

REFERENCES

MAPS OR CHARTS

ACIC. US Air Target Chart, Series 200, Sheet 0235-17A, 2d ed, Feb 60, scale 1:200,000 (SECRET)

ACIC. US Air Target Chart, Series 200, Sheet 0235-22HL, 4th ed, May 63, scale 1:200,000 (SECRET)

DOCUMENT

1. NPIC. R-622/64, *New, Unidentified Facility at Kapustin Yar/Vladimirovka Missile Test Center, USSR*, Jul 64 (TOP SECRET RUFF)

REQUIREMENT

CIA. C-RR5-82,280

NPIC PROJECT

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